LISTING OF CLAIMS

1.   (Cancelled)

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32 wherein the step of determining ~~by said processor for~~ said <u>one</u> program ~~to be buffered~~ is a predictive process, based on a frequency measurement of previously watched programs

3.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 wherein the step of determining said one program of interest is a predictive process based on specific programs watched.

4.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 wherein the step of determining said one program of interest is a predictive process based on the genre of programs watched.

5.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 wherein the step of determining said one program of interest is a predictive process based on the recommendations of other users of the system.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the recommendations of other users are extracted from Web Log entries.

7.   (Previously Presented)The method of claim 5 wherein the recommendations of other users are extracted by the processor from one or more messages from an instant messaging service.

8.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5 wherein the recommendations of other users are extracted by the processor from on-line reviews.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5 wherein the recommendations of other users are extracted by the processor from one or more email messages.

10.   (Cancelled).

11.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) In a system for distributing content to users over channels, said system including a microprocessor and a buffer for selectively storing content a method for buffering, the method comprising the steps of:

determining by the microprocessor, that at least a content of interest to at least one of said users is within a predetermined time slot available for recording;

buffering in a buffer a portion of said content for a first time period, said first time period being shorter than the duration of said content;

detecting, by said processor, microprocessor if a user starts watching said content on said presentation device within said first time period; and

stopping the buffering of the program if a user does not start watching said

~~channel~~ content within said first time period, wherein said first time period is not

dependent on the length of said program

~~; and~~

~~————— flushing said buffer after the buffering is stopped~~.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the step of determining

~~that~~ said content ~~is available~~ is performed ~~on a channel~~ is based on a list of channels

most recently viewed by the user.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the step of determining

~~said one channel~~ said content is a predictive process based on a frequency measure of

channels watched within the same timeslot of a previous day.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the step of determining

said ~~channel~~ content is a predictive process based on a frequency measure of

channels watched within the same time slot of a previous week.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the step of determining

said ~~channel~~ content is a predictive process based on the genre of channels being

watched and previously watched.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the step of determining

said ~~channel~~ content is a predictive process based on recommendations.

17.   (Cancelled)

18.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the buffering of the portion of _said content_ ~~a program on said channel~~ continues until a ~~channel~~ _content_ of higher interest is found, after which the buffering commences of a portion of a ~~program on said channel~~ _said content_ of higher interest.

19-31 (Cancelled)

32 (CURRENTLY AMENDED). In a player in which programs are ~~provided to~~ _received for_ various users, a method of time shifting a program comprising:

using a processor to determine if at least one program _received by the player_ ~~being distributed in the system~~ is of interest to a user, said _one_ program having a starting point_ and a program duration_;

starting to buffer said one program from its starting point ~~if said processor determines that said program is of interest to to at least one of the users~~;

receiving a command _to present said one program_ ~~from one of said processor to determine if the user starts watching said one program~~_, said command being received_ after said buffering has started;

presenting said program ~~from its starting point~~_,_ automatically by said processor, in response to said command;

stopping said buffering if said command is not received within a predetermined time period <u>after said starting time, said time period being shorter than said program duration and being set independently of the program duration</u>; and

automatically erasing the portion of said program that has been buffered

33-34 (Cancelled).

35 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 11 wherein said timeslot is selected from a grid defining programs over an extended time period on different channels.

36 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 35 wherein said grid is a weekly grid and said timeslot defines a program distributed at a particular day, time and channel.

37-47 (Cancelled).

48 (NEW). The method of claim 11 wherein after the buffering of said content stops, the portion of the content that has been buffered is flushed.

49 (NEW). The method of claim 11 wherein said first time period is constant for all received programs.

50 (NEW). The method of claim 11 further comprising detecting an available content by said processor before said processor determines if said available content is of interest,

wherein said first time period is set before said available content is detected by said

processor.

51 (NEW). The method of claim 11 wherein system includes a buffer that has a limited

storage capacity for buffering, said first time period being dependent on said limited

storage capacity.

52 (NEW). The method of claim 11 wherein said system includes a fixed storage space

for buffering said content of interest, wherein said first time period is dependent on said

fixed storage space.

53(NEW). The method of claim 32 wherein said predetermined time period is constant

for all received programs.

54 (NEW). The method of claim 32 further comprising detecting an available content by

said processor before said processor determines if said available content is of interest,

wherein said predetermined time period is set before said available content is detected

by said processor.

55 (NEW). The method of claim 32 wherein player includes a buffer that has a limited

storage capacity for buffering, wherein said first time period being dependent on said

limited storage capacity.

56 (NEW). The method of claim **32** wherein said player includes a fixed storage space for buffering said content of interest, wherein said first time period is dependent on said fixed storage space.

57 (NEW). The method of claim **32** wherein said program is presented from its starting point automatically.